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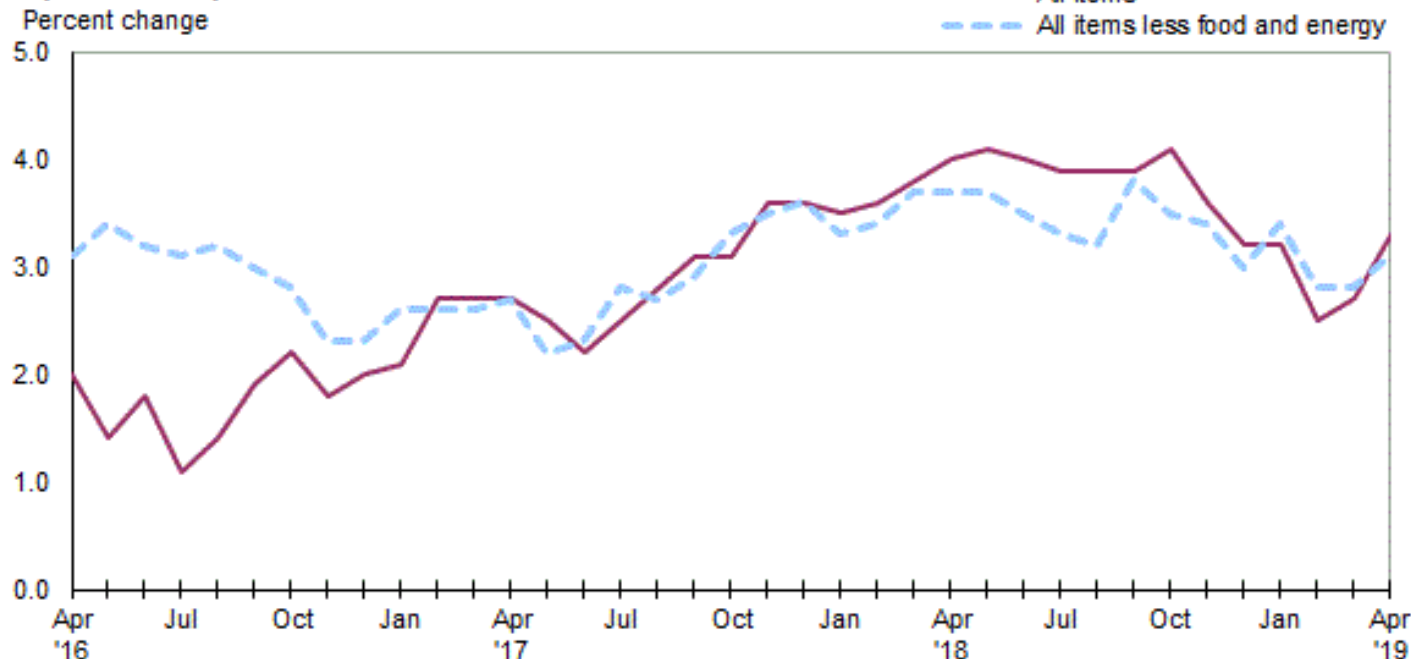
Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area – April 2019

Area prices were up 1.0 percent over the past month, up 3.3 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), advanced 1.0 percent in April, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See table A.) Assistant Commissioner for Regional Operations Richard Holden noted that the April increase was influenced by higher prices for gasoline and shelter. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U rose 3.3 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices increased 8.8 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy increased 3.1 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, April 2016–April 2019



Food

Food prices advanced 0.7 percent for the month of April. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food away from home rose 1.0 percent, and prices for food at home rose 0.4 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices advanced 2.2 percent. Prices for food away from home increased 5.0 percent since a year ago, but prices for food at home declined 0.4 percent.

Energy

The energy index advanced 8.3 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (15.0 percent). Prices for electricity rose 0.8 percent, but prices for natural gas service dropped 15.3 percent for the same period.

Energy prices increased 8.8 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (10.8 percent). Prices paid for natural gas service rose 9.8 percent, and prices for electricity increased 3.3 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 0.4 percent in April. Higher prices for medical care (0.7 percent) and shelter (0.6 percent) were partially offset by lower prices for household furnishings and operations (-2.1 percent) and other goods and services (-0.4 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy increased 3.1 percent. Components contributing to the increase included shelter (4.9 percent) and education and communication (2.2 percent). Partly offsetting the increases was a price decline in apparel (-3.3 percent).

Table A. Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim, CA, CPI-U 1-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted

Month	2015		2016		2017		2018		2019	
	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month	1-month	12-month
January.....	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1	0.9	2.1	0.8	3.5	0.7	3.2
February.....	0.7	0.1	0.0	2.4	0.6	2.7	0.7	3.6	0.1	2.5
March.....	1.0	0.5	0.3	1.7	0.3	2.7	0.4	3.8	0.6	2.7
April.....	-0.1	0.5	0.2	2.0	0.2	2.7	0.4	4.0	1.0	3.3
May.....	1.0	1.1	0.5	1.4	0.3	2.5	0.4	4.1		
June.....	-0.3	0.8	0.1	1.8	-0.2	2.2	-0.2	4.0		
July.....	0.7	1.4	0.0	1.1	0.3	2.5	0.2	3.9		
August.....	-0.3	1.1	0.0	1.4	0.3	2.8	0.2	3.9		
September.....	-0.4	0.7	0.2	1.9	0.4	3.1	0.5	3.9		
October.....	0.2	1.0	0.4	2.2	0.4	3.1	0.5	4.1		
November.....	0.0	1.6	-0.4	1.8	0.1	3.6	-0.3	3.6		
December.....	-0.1	2.0	0.0	2.0	0.0	3.6	-0.3	3.2		

The May 2019 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim area is scheduled to be released on June 12, 2019.

Consumer Price Index Geographic Revision for 2018

In January 2018, BLS introduced a new geographic area sample for the Consumer Price Index (CPI). As part of the new sample, Los Angeles and Riverside have separate indexes. Additional information on the geographic revision is available at: www.bls.gov/cpi/additional-resources/geographic-revision-2018.htm.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 5,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles and Orange Counties in the State of California.

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Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019
Expenditure category						
All items	269.608	271.311	273.945	3.3	1.6	1.0
All items (1967=100)	796.542	801.573	809.356	-	-	-
Food and beverages	263.133	264.112	265.788	2.2	1.0	0.6
Food	263.672	264.592	266.459	2.2	1.1	0.7
Food at home	253.890	255.111	256.108	-0.4	0.9	0.4
Cereals and bakery products	265.333	267.027	270.934	3.3	2.1	1.5
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	276.038	274.330	278.702	-0.7	1.0	1.6
Dairy and related products	246.272	246.976	243.276	0.1	-1.2	-1.5
Fruits and vegetables	333.006	343.687	342.410	-0.5	2.8	-0.4
Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1)	270.972	265.537	263.960	1.5	-2.6	-0.6
Other food at home	195.949	197.371	198.575	-3.4	1.3	0.6
Food away from home	270.343	270.937	273.686	5.0	1.2	1.0
Food away from home	270.343	270.937	273.686	5.0	1.2	1.0
Alcoholic beverages	239.892	241.589	240.606	1.5	0.3	-0.4
Housing	309.497	312.127	312.688	4.6	1.0	0.2
Shelter	356.982	359.475	361.669	4.9	1.3	0.6
Rent of primary residence(2)	377.425	380.499	381.531	5.4	1.1	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2)(3)	371.743	373.265	375.066	4.8	0.9	0.5
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(1)(2)	371.721	373.243	375.044	4.8	0.9	0.5
Fuels and utilities	325.201	329.908	321.975	3.9	-1.0	-2.4
Household energy	278.269	284.090	274.065	4.8	-1.5	-3.5
Energy services(2)	276.771	282.620	272.507	4.8	-1.5	-3.6
Electricity(2)	317.998	321.116	323.613	3.3	1.8	0.8
Utility (piped) gas service(2)	229.026	241.126	204.313	9.8	-10.8	-15.3
Household furnishings and operations	119.497	121.782	119.225	1.4	-0.2	-2.1
Apparel	107.306	109.928	110.382	-3.3	2.9	0.4
Transportation	210.461	212.514	223.435	4.8	6.2	5.1
Private transportation	207.378	209.911	219.807	4.8	6.0	4.7
New and used motor vehicles(4)	91.772	91.803	91.923	-0.2	0.2	0.1
New vehicles(1)	170.073	169.506	170.106	0.2	0.0	0.4
Used cars and trucks(1)	267.527	269.606	269.228	0.1	0.6	-0.1
Motor fuel	256.316	267.783	307.726	10.8	20.1	14.9
Gasoline (all types)	250.262	261.512	300.758	10.8	20.2	15.0
Gasoline, unleaded regular(4)	250.628	261.977	301.683	10.9	20.4	15.2
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade(4)(5)	241.180	252.139	288.797	11.0	19.7	14.5
Gasoline, unleaded premium(4)	239.351	249.632	285.205	10.4	19.2	14.3
Motor vehicle insurance(1)	774.857	774.857	774.857	3.6	0.0	0.0
Medical care	482.174	478.912	482.458	0.9	0.1	0.7
Recreation(6)	105.914	105.446	105.404	1.3	-0.5	0.0
Education and communication(6)	146.560	146.326	146.969	2.2	0.3	0.4
Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) ..	1,893.391	1,893.391	1,893.391	6.6	0.0	0.0
Other goods and services	435.395	438.268	436.530	1.9	0.3	-0.4
Commodity and service group						
All items	269.608	271.311	273.945	3.3	1.6	1.0
Commodities	180.663	182.634	186.418	1.8	3.2	2.1
Commodities less food & beverages	137.885	140.105	144.444	1.5	4.8	3.1
Nondurables less food & beverages	184.882	190.025	199.474	2.4	7.9	5.0
Durables	92.194	91.869	91.741	-0.2	-0.5	-0.1
Services	348.755	350.227	351.856	4.1	0.9	0.5

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Long Beach-Anaheim (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019	Apr. 2019	Apr. 2018	Feb. 2019	Mar. 2019
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care	260.322	262.204	264.792	3.5	1.7	1.0
All items less shelter.....	231.196	232.548	235.395	2.3	1.8	1.2
Commodities less food	142.287	144.522	148.777	1.5	4.6	2.9
Nondurables	225.033	228.388	234.497	2.3	4.2	2.7
Nondurables less food.....	190.401	195.428	204.438	2.4	7.4	4.6
Services less rent of shelter(3).....	346.278	346.301	347.142	2.8	0.2	0.2
Services less medical care services.....	336.890	338.536	340.005	4.3	0.9	0.4
Energy	265.805	275.385	298.187	8.8	12.2	8.3
All items less energy	271.996	273.189	274.505	3.0	0.9	0.5
All items less food and energy	273.716	274.954	276.185	3.1	0.9	0.4

Footnotes

(1) Indexes on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(3) Indexes on a December 1982=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(6) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.